

the English language, meet the minimum job qualifications of the position as established by the appointing authority, be of good moral character and have a high school diploma or its equivalent. I am striking the language that says, "and have a high school diploma or its equivalent". You know, I'm probably more sensitive than most folks. Maybe I am overly sensitive, but it occurs to me that if an applicant can make the other requirements for the job of a policeman or a fire fighter simply because they might have made a mistake at some point in their life, the mistake being not finishing high school, should not be held against them in their applying for these positions. I have a difficult time in rationalizing why we should put that type of language in the statutes and put a "shall" in front of it. So I am asking you to help me strike that language and I might add that I did not do it, but I had a strong feeling that I should have stricken the "of good moral character" language as well because I think that is very difficult to determine exactly what that means. I would suggest that anybody could probably get three glowing letters from somebody telling their potential employer what kind of a great person they were. So I have some real problems with that language as well, but I am leaving that in. All I am asking you to strike is the language that says, "have a high school diploma or its equivalent" because I believe that the requirements that they shall be able to read and write the English language and meet the minimum job qualifications of the position as established by the appointing authority should certainly be high enough for that position. Now I know that there are those people that say, well...and I am sure that Senator Lundy is going to say that, that for those people who are going to be potential police officers, they are to take the training, there are ways you can get into the University of Nebraska without having a high school diploma. If we can do that at the University of Nebraska, we surely should be able to get a police officer into the police training academy without having a high school diploma as well. So I ask you to strike that language.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Rupp.

SENATOR RUPP: Yes, Mr. President, and colleagues, I have no objection to Senator Vickers' amendment. I think the good moral character was in the original statute and it was just left and as he alluded to the high school diploma or equivalency was I guess in there only as a requirement of